

**METHOD AND APPARATUS OF CONTROLLING NOISE LEVEL
CALCULATIONS IN A CONFERENCING SYSTEM**

Abstract

5 Apparatus for controlling noise characteristic estimation in a conferencing system, comprising a noise characteristic estimator for estimating a noise characteristic of a signal of interest transmitted in a first direction through the conferencing system, and a first voice activity detector for detecting audio signal activity in a signal transmitted through the conferencing system in a direction opposite to the signal of interest and in response disabling the noise characteristic estimator.

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